

# EPA announces the proposed cleanup plan for the Chemical Leaman Tank Lines Site

Logan Township, New Jersey

July 2009

## **What does EPA's proposed cleanup plan for the Chemical Leaman Tank Line Superfund Site consist of?**

The cleanup plan that the United States Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to address contamination at the Chemical Leaman Tank Lines Superfund site consists of a combination of methods.

In areas of the site where contamination is present in its liquid phase undissolved in groundwater a Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (NAPL) recovery system will be used. In areas where soils are contaminated, *in situ* thermal treatment with soil vapor extraction will be used, and a pump and treat system will be used to address contaminated groundwater.

## **Where is the Chemical Leaman Tank Line Site located?**

The Site is located in a predominantly rural area of Logan Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey. The Site consists of a 38.5-acre active tanker truck washing terminal area, as well as surrounding property that remains unused, and is bordered to the north by a Conrail rail line, to the east by Cedar Swamp, to the south by Moss Branch Creek and adjacent wetlands, and to the west by Pierson Materials, Inc. sand pits.

Most of the northern and western portions of the Site consist of unpaved (sand and gravel) parking and driveway areas. Wetlands occupy the eastern and southern portions of the Site. The Site property west Oak Grove Road is undeveloped. Land use in the immediate vicinity of the Site is predominately residential, industrial and agricultural. The groundwater in the vicinity of the Site is a potable water supply; however, residential properties located in the vicinity of the Site are connected to the public water supply.

## **What kind of activities took place at the Chemical Leaman Tank Line Site?**

Chemical Leaman Tank Lines, Inc. (CLTL) has operated a tank-washing facility at the site since 1961.

Prior to 1975, the wastewater generated from washing and rinsing the tanker trucks was placed in a series of seven unlined lagoons and ultimately was discharged to Cedar Swamp and Moss Branch Creek which border the site.

In 1980 and 1981, the NJDEP found carbon tetrachloride and other organic compounds in the groundwater on the Site, as well as in neighboring private supply wells. The presence of these compounds in the groundwater of the area apparently resulted from former wastewater handling and disposal practices at the Site. Contamination was also found in Site soils and the adjacent wetland area.

Investigation findings indicated that contaminated groundwater affected areas beyond the truck washing facility and nearby residences. Therefore, the Site was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) of Superfund Sites on September 21, 1984.

## **What cleanup has been done at the Chemical Leaman Tank Line site?**

Following the closure of the lagoons in 1975, sludge in the settling lagoons was excavated and disposed of off-site. These lagoons were then backfilled with clean sand. The aeration lagoons were backfilled with sand and construction debris, but no sludge was removed.

In 1980 and 1981, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection found carbon tetrachloride and other organic compounds in the groundwater on the site as well as in neighboring private wells. In 1987, residences north of the site along Route 44 were connected to the Bridgeport Municipal Water System. In 1993 and 1995, residences south and west of the site were connected to the municipal water supply.

A Record of Decision (ROD) addressing groundwater contamination was issued by EPA on September 28, 1990 that selected groundwater extraction and treatment as the groundwater remedy. Construction of the groundwater treatment plant was completed in January 2007. The groundwater extraction and treatment system consists of 20 recovery wells with a

total pumping rate of 230 gallons per minute (gpm) from the shallow and intermediate aquifer zones and is currently in the startup phase.

On October 5, 1993 EPA issued a ROD addressing the impacted wetlands that selected excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated wetland soils and sediments along with wetland restoration activities. Remediation and restoration activities in wetland areas of the Site were completed in July 2007.

### **What contaminants are at the Chemical Leaman Tank Line Site?**

The groundwater on site is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including trichloroethene, benzene, and vinyl chloride, and heavy metals including arsenic, chromium, and zinc. Many of the same contaminants have been found in private wells in the vicinity of the CLTL facility. Contaminants found in subsurface soils include heavy metals, VOCs, and phthalates (semi-volatile organic compounds).

### **Does the Chemical Leaman Tank Line Site pose a danger to me or my family?**

Residents who use water from VOC-contaminated wells for drinking, bathing, or clothes washing may ingest, inhale, or dermally absorb contaminants. Area homes have been connected to the municipal water supplies so that no one is being exposed to contaminated drinking water. Workers could be exposed to VOCs by direct contact with or by inhaling contaminants. Cedar Swamp, located adjacent to the facility, had been impacted by the direct discharge of contaminants, contaminant laden surface water runoff, and migrating contaminants in the groundwater. These contaminants posed an ecological risk to the Cedar Swamp ecosystem, however contamination in the wetlands was addressed during the implementation of the 1993 ROD.

### **How will I be kept informed about what EPA is doing at the Chemical Leaman Tank Line Site?**

It is important to the EPA that members of the community near a Superfund site are kept informed about all of the activities at the site. We will be holding public meeting on **July 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

at the Logan Township Municipal Building located at 125 Main Street in Bridgeport, New Jersey. This public meeting provides community members an opportunity to formally comment on the proposed cleanup plan for CLTL. Additional information about the site is available on the EPA webpage at: [www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/chemicalleaman/](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/chemicalleaman/)

If you have any questions about the Site, or any of EPA's activities, you can call the Community Involvement Coordinator for the Site, Natalie Loney, at (212) 637-3639 or the Remedial Project Manager, Theresa Hwilka at 212-637-4409.